

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of generating data for identifying a video storage media comprising the steps of (1) generating from the contents of the media, a data sequence derived from the picture and/or the audio content of video frames of the video medium, (2) appending to said data sequence with at least position information and optionally video images, and storing same in memory means.

2. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which a video frame signal is converted into an array and a part of the frame being analyzed comprises a discrete array taken from the whole frame array.

3. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the video frame is converted into a blocked array of summed pixel values.

4. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 3 in which the block array is compared with the block array of the previous frame and the pixel value that is most changed is stored as a frame value.

5. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 4 when used to create a series of data sequences for a plurality of video storage media.

6. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which some of the data sequences which are stored in the memory have appended thereto data which facilitates reproduction of the image of at least one frame of the sequence.

7. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 6 in which the memory contains stored images of a plurality of frames taken from discrete intervals along the video medium.

8. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 6 and further comprising storing audio signals associated with at least some of said data sequences.

9. (Withdrawn) A method of generating data for identifying a video storage media as claimed in anyone of claim 1 comprising the steps of (1) reading a video storage medium and generating an electronic signal of at least part of each frame of a sequence frames of the video tape, (2) using the signal to generate a frame value for each frame in the sequence, and generating and storing a resulting frame value sequence, and (5) repeating the process for further frames of the video storage medium to generate a series of frame value sequences which are stored in memory.

10. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the video storage media is a video tape.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of identifying a video storage media by generating at least one data sequence from the video and/or audio content of the storage media and comparing the resulting data sequence with a series of data sequences stored in memory to establish a match or relationship.

12. Cancelled.

13. (Withdrawn) A memory means be it an electronic memory or a video storage media storing an index of video storage media contents, be it magnetic or optical, the index comprising a plurality of images corresponding to each of the contents of the a video storage medium at different positions thereof and wherein the index is adapted to be read and displayed on a television screen, enabling the selection of one or more of a plurality of scenes of the recorded content and wherein a related off-media sequence or signal derived from and related to the video and/or audio contents of a video storage medium is used to determine the content of the video tape and the position of the images on the video tape.

14. (Withdrawn) A memory means as claimed in claim 13 in which more than one of the plurality of images are visible simultaneously.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of accessing material recorded on a video storage media comprising recovering from memory an index of the storage media contents and displaying on a television screen in the form of a plurality of images corresponding to different positions of the storage media, with or without accompanying text, each image having an associated data sequence or data value derived from the video or audio content of the video, storage media and which defines its position on the video storage media and wherein selection of one of the images instigates a search for the corresponding position on a storage media by determining the current media position and comparing the resulting data sequence or data value with a series of data sequences or data value stored in memory until a match or a relationship is established and comparing the location thereof with the location of the selected position and instigating operation of the video storage media recorder transport according to programmed control to locate the desired position using characterization data from the video storage media recorded or further position checks.

16. (Withdrawn) Apparatus when used to perform the method of claim 1, comprising means to generate from the contents of the media a data sequence derived from the picture and/or audio content of the video frames of the video medium, means to determine tape position, means to capture video frame images, and memory means for storing the information.

17. (Currently Amended) A closed loop video recorder or other media device control system for determining the status of a video recorder or other remote media device, the system comprising a status subsystem means to (1) issue signals or data comprising a play command or code or sequence, (2) perform a verification that said signals or data are received by the video recorder or other remote media device, and (3) use said verification or an absence of said verification to determine if said video recorder or other remote media device is powered on.

18. (Currently Amended) A closed loop control system as claimed in claim 17 ~~further comprising the steps of;~~ wherein the status subsystem checks whether ~~(1) checking that~~ the tape or media position is substantially unchanged from a predetermined position, ~~(2) issuing and~~ issues a record command or code or sequence in response thereto.

19. (Currently Amended) A closed loop control system as claimed in claim 17 ~~further comprising the step of verifying~~ wherein the status subsystem verifies whether the signals or data received from said video recorder or other remote media device correspond to a selected program designated for recording.

20. (Currently Amended) A system method for controlling a video recorder or other remote media device for selective enabling and disabling of associated functions, comprising the steps of[,] : (1) periodically assessing the presence or content of signals and/or data output from said video recorder or other remote media device to determine if the device is operating, (2) determining if said video recorder or other remote media device is scheduled and/or permitted to operate at the time of assessing the signals and/or data, and (3) if required, issuing a command or code or sequence to disable said video recorder or other remote media device by a power off command and/or a stop command and/or a pause or other command.

21. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface adapted to display information relating to television program content and/or data content from other sources such as the Internet and video recorder or other media device content, wherein selections are made from said television program content and/or data content from other sources for recording onto video tape or other media, whereby calculation of available free space on said video tape or other media is displayed and whereby if insufficient space is available for recording original selections may be modified and/or some or all of the video tape or other media contents maybe selected for overwriting.

22. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface as claimed in claim 21 when adapted to display the status of items recorded on video tape or other media as to whether the recorded item has been viewed.

23. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface is adapted to display information relating to one or more video tapes or other media contents, as determined according to the method of claim 1 and wherein the contents of said video tape or other media is displayed graphically, according to the category of the recorded material.

24. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface adapted to display information relating to television program content and/or data content from other sources such as the Internet and/or video recorder or other media device content, wherein said display information comprises a visual representation such as a picture indicating the contents of said television program content and/or data content from other sources such as the Internet and/or video recorder or other media device content.

25. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface as claimed in claim 24 in which said visual representations are stored in memory, at least temporarily, to permit on-screen display.

26. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface as claimed in claim 24 wherein the graphical user interface is adapted to display program content information by category such as what is currently showing and/or what will be showing next and/or what is showing that day and/or what will be showing that week.

27. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface adapted to display information as claimed in claim 24 further adapted to filter said television program content by category of user preferences such as channel number or type of television program or other category.

28. (Withdrawn) A video recorder or other medial device index generation method comprising the steps of, (1) recording a television broadcast, (2) recording in a memory means a copy of subtitling or closed caption data, (3) using said subtitling or closed caption data to search for key words or phrases to identify a scene from one or more video tapes or other media

corresponding to said key word, (4) issuing a command or code or sequence to position said video tape or other media at the scene corresponding to said key word.

29. (Newly Added) The method as claimed in claim 20 further comprising the steps of checking that a tape associated with the video recorder or a media position associated with the other remote media device is substantially unchanged from a predetermined position to determine if the video recorder or other remote media device has been operated since the predetermined position.

30. (Newly Added) The method as claimed in claim 29 further comprising the step of verifying whether signals or data received from the video recorder or other remote media device correspond to a selected program designated for recording.